

Samuel J. Tilden

promptly proposed. To this end it was resolved by Mr. Tilden that Charles O'Connor should be appointed to himself select the persons to be proposed as candidates to the Legislature at the election of 1871. Circumstances prevented the two former gentlemen from attending at that election, but Mr. Tilden attended. During the ensuing session he gave most of his time to the consideration of the objects for which he consented to run, including the reform of the judiciary, the impeachment of the Judges who and his confederates had accepted of the bribe, and the reform of the courts during the session that a large fund was raised for the corruption of the committee on the impeachment of the accused. At the close of the session, when the case came, it proved unsuccessful. The result was that the cause of the accused spent near succeeding was made to the satisfaction of justice in the choice of man, again, the fortune of the day was by the proposition of Mr. Tilden's opponent, by which each side was disappointed. The result was to make the Bar Association. The prosecution of the case, the conduct of the suit

It is pointed out by the biographer that when Mr. Tilden became Governor, on Jan. 1, 1875, he brought to his position a measure of professional training, of political and financial skill and practical knowledge of men, whether in mass or in detail, which, perhaps, had never before been possessed by a Governor of the Empire State. Chief Magistrate of the Empire State. His life seemed to have been a preparation for the work to which he had been called. In his youth he had learned from the struggles of the Commonwealth the value of the ballot box. He had the folly of an unsecured journey as the basis of industrial and commercial exchanges, and the demoralizing influence upon society of the reckless system of credit to which it had led. During a period of twenty years he had seen the growth of the family intercourse with the ruling men of the country, and enjoyed opportunities of appreciating its varying political situations during that long period under every advantage and of propagating their lessons. Though much of that time in a position that entitled him to his choice of the public honors of the

This message was presented to the Legislature on Jan. 5, 1875. On March 10, that is to say as soon as Governor Tilden had secured from the Legislature such additional remedies for official delinquency as he considered necessary, he directed the attention of the Legislature, in a special message, to the mismanagement of the canal.

The Canal Ring embraced, as the name implies, about an equal proportion of both political parties. It consisted of men who had become wealthy by plundering the State as contractors, and who, in the mean time, had secured for themselves their positions, and who, as agents of the State, certified their work and audited and paid their bills. Mr. Tilden had been for years familiar with their power and methods of operation, for he had frequently tried conclusions with them in the Senate, and he knew that his victories could mean nearly, not quite, all they were worth. Knowing the power of the adversaries with whom he proposed to do battle, and

It appears that one winter's day in Moscow the Countess Tolstol said to the author of this book, "I have a fine idea for my new dress. I will wear Polyanas (clearfield) next summer. You should see Russian country life, and you will see it with me. Our house is not elegant, but you will find it plain, clean, and comfortable." Accordingly, in the following June the author set out for the Moscow district. He found a fine country, and ordered a troika and drove for some fifteen versts (ten miles) through a lovely rolling country over a fine macadamized highway, leading to the South and to Kieff. We are told that the views on either hand were wide, fresh and fair. The fields were green, the sky was clear, the yellowing birch, and blue-flowered grass, with birch trees in small groves near at hand, and forest in the distance, varied the scene. Evergreens, it seems, were rarer here, and oak trees more plentiful, than they are around Moscow. The grass by the roadside was sootily thick with willow flowers—Canturbury bells, campanulas, poppies, pink and white, willow weed (used to adulterate tea), yellow daisies, pinks, corn flowers, yellow everlasting, deep crimson crane's bill, and hosts of other blossoms. A fast troika reached the stone gate of a large estate, where the Countess Yasnaya Polyanas, and was driven up the formerly splendid and still beautiful avenue of huge white birch trees, from whose ranks many had fallen or been felled. The avenue terminated near the house in hedges of lilacs and roses, and the Countess's house lay in the field or bathing in the river. But the visitor was cordially received and installed in the room of the Count's eldest son, who was at his business in St. Petersburg. Presently dinner was served on a long table under the trees, at which the Countess, her son, and the author had been mowing, now appeared in a grayish blouse and trousers, and a soft, white linen cap. We are told that in complexion he looked even more weather beaten than his brother had in Moscow during the winter. His broad shoulders seemed to prove the steep a memory of recent toil. His manner was simple, unassuming, and to simplicity, awkward, half-conquered consciousness, and half-discarded polish, was a cordial as ever. His piercing, gray-green-lidded eyes had lost none of their almost saturnine and, withal, melancholy expression. His nose was straight, his lips thin, and his hair white, which are so common in Russia in the summer and white linen caps. That evening, after tea

his health in other ways during the exceptionally hot weather which prevailed. During this illness, he was persuaded to read "Looking Backward," which his visitor had received from the publisher. He is told to read it at first he was very tolerantly impressionable. He believed that this was the true way of ordering human life; that people should be literally all things in common, and so on. He actually suggested that matters would be better if he were to describe the life of the future, unless this planet were visited another deluge and no Noah was saved to rescue our selfish species. She declared to nothing short of a new planet and a new created race of Utopian angels would ever be able to prevent the people of this earth from disagreeing with her, and an argument ensued. In the course of it he said that his only objection to "Looking Backward" lay in the degree of luxury in which the characters of the perfect scheme of society lived. "What harm," as he said, "is it to be told that the angels are any content, provided that all enjoy their 'Luxury in all wrong,' he answered severely. "You perceive the sinful luxury in which I am waving his hand toward the excessively plush furniture, and am inadvertently with special reference to the silver forks and spoons. I have all a fallacy that they are necessary for remaining above them. We must descend their level in habits, intelligence, and life; it will rise together." And again: "We can certainly not change the position of a thing as long as we are too stupid to grasp it; unless we are on the same plane with it."

The author of this book thinks that every man must side with the Countess Tolstoy in her management of her family. It is owing solely to that the younger members of the family are content to be made to fit them for the struggle with life which her husband is made to upon the elder members voluntarily. It is to her alone that her husband is still alive, it is not, it seems, an easy task to protect. Count against himself. So far as he is concerned, there is not the slightest doubt that he would gladly give up his position of privilege which he advocates. But if he were to take his residence in a peasant's cottage and try support himself on what his labors brought he would be dead in less than a month. He suffers from liver disease. He has not been used to the life of a peasant. He has not been taught to accustom himself to any more than he can compel his stomach to accept a purely

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RATES FOR ADMISSION.

Discoveries Made by a Diner in the Kitchen of a French Restaurant.

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Comments on Various Topics by a Re-
claimed Resident of Long Island.

II.—A COUPLE OF COINCIDENCES.

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A Baboo Bill of the Play.

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